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GUIDELINES, PROCEDURES, PROGRAMS AND POLICIES RELATING TO MARRIED AND TO PREGNANT STUDENTS.

BY- KELLY, ROBERT E.

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THESE GUIDELINES ARE FOR (1) THE PARTICIPATION OF PREGNANT AND MARRIED STUDENTS IN THE REGULAR SCHOOL PROGRAM, (2) THE PLACEMENT OF PREGNANT STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND (3) THE POSTPARTUM RETURN OF STUDENTS TO THEIR REGULAR SCHOOL. THEY ALSO OUTLINE POLICIES WHICH RELATE TO ATTENDANCE CREDITS FROM A SPECIAL SCHOOL, GRADUATION FROM A REGULAR SECONDARY SCHOOL, AND TEXTBOOKS AND ASSIGNMENTS. AMONG THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO PREGNANT STUDENTS ARE HOME INSTRUCTION, INSTRUCTION VIA TELEPHONE ("TELE-CLASS"), AND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION IN OR NEAR COUNTY HEALTH CENTERS OR IN MATERNITY HOMES. (LB)

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LOS ANGELES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Division of Secondary Education

DIVISION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION BULLETIN NO. 45

D.S.E. #45
Married and Pregnant Students

TO: Secondary School Principals
Girls' and Boys' Vice-Principals

August 28, 1967

FROM: Robert E. Kelly, Associate Superintendent (19) 323-9464

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES, PROCEDURES, PROGRAMS AND POLICIES RELATING TO MARRIED AND TO PREGNANT STUDENTS

The Los Angeles City Schools are committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for all pupils in the District, as long as they can profit from attendance, and providing the individual's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the group. Under this guiding philosophy, the Division of Secondary Education and the Special Education Branch set forth the following guiding principles and regulations pertaining to married and/or pregnant students.

California Education Code, Section 6802, makes it permissible for school districts to provide educational programs for pregnant students who may profit from this instruction. In 1958, the Division of Secondary Education initiated procedures whereby pregnant students could continue an educational program in the Los Angeles City School Districts. The programs provided relate to services offered by a home teacher through the Special Education Branch. A student, eligible to attend a public, private or parochial school, may be eligible for placement in one of the programs as described below:

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I. GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN REGULAR SCHOOL

A. MARRIED STUDENTS

Inasmuch as the secondary program, curricular and co-curricular is designed for the unmarried student, special provisions must be made for students who marry before completion of their high school education. As marriage imposes added responsibilities on both parties, conditions under which approval to enter or to remain in school, subsequent to marriage, are listed below:

1. Students are expected to report their marriage to the appropriate vice-principal who should counsel the students concerning their new responsibilities in relation to their educational programs.

2. In the interest of the general welfare of all concerned, it is the policy of the Division of Secondary Education to transfer one of the members of a marriage, if both members are from the same student body, to a neighboring school. Election of the one to transfer will be determined by the married couple. Exceptions may be recommended by the principal with the approval of the Area Superintendent.

3. Married students will be expected to conduct themselves in a circumspect manner and be discreet in their relationship with other members of the student body.

4. The same standards of attendance, conduct, and scholarship will be expected of married students as of other members of the student body.

B. PREGNANT STUDENTS

Pregnancy need not be an immediate cause for termination of enrollment. There is usually time to make appropriate plans suited to the needs of the individual. The time limit established for pregnant certificated personnel to be released from school begins three months before delivery and continues two months after. The same time limit may be used as a guide in a determination of the student's continued enrollment in a regular school. Physical condition and time remaining in the semester are factors which should be considered in this determination.

1. Pregnant Students - Married

a. All married students should be told that while pregnancy is not a cause for immediate discontinuance of school attendance, the girls' vice-principal should be informed of the pregnancy as soon as the condition has been diagnosed in order that an appropriate educational program may be provided.

b. If the student wishes to remain in school, the girl should present a written statement from her physician advising that attendance at school and participation in the regular program will have no adverse effect on the girl's health.

2. Pregnant Students - Unmarried

a. Consultation with the student, her parents, and the school doctor or nurse should occur as soon as the vice-principal becomes aware of the girl's condition.

b. The school assumes responsibility for planning an educational program which the student may pursue during and following her pregnancy.

c. The school also has the responsiblity for making known to the student appropriate medical and social agency resources.

II. PROCEDURES FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN OTHER THAN REGULAR SCHOOL

A. REFERRALS

General Instructions - The following instructions may be used for placement in the educational programs designed for pregnant students.

1. Recommendation by a Physician

   a. Recommendation for placement in a program for pregnant students shall be made by a physician from either a school, a clinic, or private practice.

   b. The recommendation is subject to the approval of the supervising physician in the Health Services Branch.

   c. The diagnosis must indicate pregnancy and the expected date of confinement.

   d. The physician making a referral shall complete in quadruplicate the form "Recommendation for Placement Because of Physical Condition or Health Problem" (Form 34-EH-21). The referring school shall fill in the top part of the form completely. This includes the student's name, grade and birthdate. Schools should supply this form on request to private physicians, hospitals and clinics. Contact should be made with the girls' vice-principal so that she may know this form is being requested.

2. Recommendation by the School

   Before the form is sent for review by the Health Services Branch, the vice-principal should initial and comment in the box in the lower right corner of the form, with additional information on reverse side, as necessary.

3. Review by Health Services

   After the form is reviewed by the supervising physician in the Health Services Branch, it is forwarded to the Special Education Branch.

4. Placement

   The placement in one of the educational programs designed for pregnant students is made by the Special Education Branch.

B. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Home Instruction

   a. Description: Instruction is given in the student's home by a home teacher. A student who is placed on the home teaching program receives one hour of academic instruction per week.

   b. Credits: Usually two subjects are offered and credit is given for corrective (rest) physical education. This program provides a maximum of 15 earned credits.

   c. Referrals: Referrals are made following the procedures described above (II. A.).

2. Tele-Class

   a. Description: Instruction is given to a group of students daily by telephone.

   b. Credits: Most students carry a maximum of four subjects with additional credit for physical education. This program permits a maximum of 25 earned credits.

   c. Referrals: Students are selected from home teaching referrals.

3. Health Center Classroom Instruction

   a. Description: Students attend daily classes located in or near County Health Centers for a minimum of four hours.

   b. Credits: Most students carry a maximum of four subjects with additional credit given for physical education. This program permits a maximum of 25 earned credits.

   c. Referrals: The referral procedure described above is followed when the referral is initiated by the school or private physician. However, special referrals to the classroom may originate at Health Centers as a result of the girl's application for medical care. The examining physician at the clinic initiates the form 34-EH-21 and mails it as directed on the form. Contacts are subsequently made with the vice-principal.

4. Maternity Homes Classroom Instruction
   (St. Anne's, Booth Memorial, and Florence Crittenton)

   a. Description: Classroom instruction is given at the maternity homes. Enrollment limited to residents or out-patients of the home who are of school age.

   b. Credits: Students in this program may receive a maximum of 25 earned credits.

   c. Referrals: Placement in the homes are made upon referrals by private and public agencies, physicians, pastors, and other interested individuals. Schools have no jurisdiction over the intake policies of the homes. A girl's identity in the home is confidential and should be treated as such by the girls' vice-principal who will be notified of the placement by the special education school.

   d. Follow-up: Whenever a student leaves a maternity home prior to completion of a semester of work, home instruction may be assigned.

NOTE: In exceptional cases, involving a Senior A, an additional subject may be allowed in any of the above programs, with the mutual agreement of the regular and special school administrators.

III. GENERAL POLICIES

A. GENERAL

1. Enrollment: Upon enrollment of the student, the registrar of the regular school will be notified.

2. Records: Records, cums, health cards, etc., may be requested from the regular school.

3. Credits: Marks will be given for any student in attendance for three weeks or more and credits for semester ending marks will be granted.

4. Textbooks and Assignments: Textbooks and assignments are the responsibility of the special school. In those cases where it is necessary to obtain texts from the regular school, the special school will clear with the regular school.

B. DIPLOMAS AND GRADUATION

1. Diplomas: According to Div. of Instructional Planning and Services Publication #489 (Graduation Requirements and Curricula--1967):

Junior high school: "To complete satisfactorily a course of study as prescribed by the Board of Education, a pupil must have passing marks in at least ten subjects in the last two semesters of his junior high experience (five of these subjects must be passed in the A9 semester); at least four semesters of attendance in a junior high school (or their equivalent); and an A9 experience."

(This statement will be changed as the implementation of the five-period day modifies the junior high school graduation requirement for all pupils).

Senior high school: "To be eligible for graduation, the pupil must attend the school from which he is to receive the diploma for a semester during the year, and complete 15 or more semester periods of work at that school."

a. It is recognized that circumstances involved in pregnancy referrals may warrant an exception to the above. In general, however, these students should have an opportunity to receive a diploma from their regular school.

b. In considering referral of an A9 or an A12 to this program, it is recommended that the regular school administrator include, as part of the referral process, plans for ordering and granting of diploma.

c. Wherever individual circumstances warrant, exceptions to the above policy may be made with the approval of both principals. Exceptions should be discussed with the student prior to the transfer from the regular school.

2. Graduation: Participation in graduation exercises is at the discretion of the school granting the diploma.

IV. RETURN OF STUDENTS TO REGULAR SCHOOL

A. Childbirth in itself is not considered a basis for refusal to readmit a girl under 18 years of age to her own or another school.

B. Re-enrollment requires a doctor's statement indicating the student is able to return to school.

C. The student is instructed to report to the girls' vice-principal for readmittance. The vice-principal has responsibility for encouraging continuance of education.

D. In some cases, it may be advisable to transfer the student to another school. If so, it is arranged by the vice-principals of the schools concerned.

E. A student's return to school may be coordinated through the Attendance Area Supervisor, Child Welfare and Attendance Branch, working with the girls' vice-principal of the regular school.

APPROVED:

EVERETT B. CHAFFEE
Associate Superintendent
Division of Instructional Services

GILBERT S. MOORE
Assistant Superintendent
Auxiliary Services Division